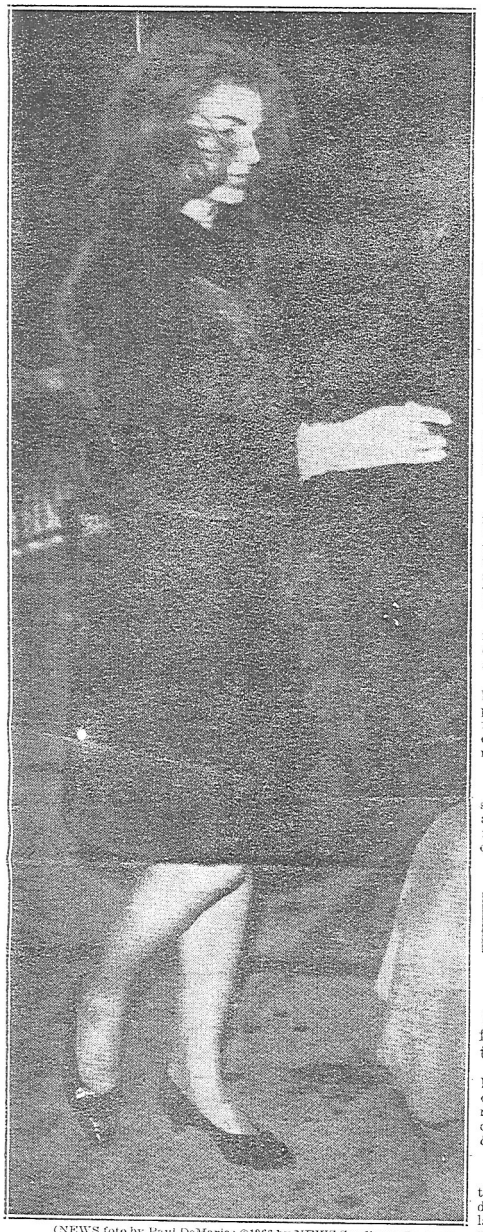

(NEWS foto by Paul DeMaria; ©1966 by NEWS Syndicate Co. Inc.)
Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy leaves her Fifth Ave. apartment for Kennedy Airport yesterday afternoon.

Confused, Depressed, Says Author's Doc

Middletown, Conn., Dec. 26 (AP)—Author William Manchester was hospitalized with a slight case of pneumonia today and ordered to remain in his hospital bed for at least a week to recuperate.

Manchester, 44, whose manuscript of a book about the assassination of President Kennedy has caused a literary and legal furor, was admitted to Middlesex Memorial Hospital early today.

Dr. F. Erwin Tracy, the family doctor, said the author "has a slight touch of pneumonia in the lower left lobe of his lung."

When he was admitted to the hospital, Manchester had a temperature of 104 degrees, but by noon it had returned to normal.

'Responding Favorably'

Manchester was responding favorably to treatment with antibiotics, but Tracy said the author would remain on the hospital's critical list until a diagnosis could be completed. He said this would take about another 78 hours.

Tracy ordered Manchester confined to a private room, where only his immediate family were allowed to visit.

Tracy, who said Manchester has been "confused and depressed" for the past few weeks, forbade "telephone calls of an emotional or controversial nature."

Had a Similar Attack

A spokesman for the hospital said it was believed "the emotion and strain of the past few weeks might have lowered Mr. Manchester's resistance."

The spokesman said Manchester had a similar attack three or four weeks ago while traveling in England, and has not been feeling well since.
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A close friend of the author recalled that he was hospitalized for abotu a month last yer after "working himself into a state of exhaustion."

John Payton, secretary of Wesleyan University said Manchester "is almost a compulsive worker," who spent 16 hours a day working on the book.

Wounded as Marine

"That kind off schedule was bound to catch up with him," Payton said. He said Manchester spent four weeks in 1965 recuperating at Elmcrest Hospital, a private psychiatric institution in nearby Portland, Conn.

Manchester served as a marine in World War II, as his father, also William, did in World War I. Like his father, he was wounded. This was in the marines' costly assault on Sugar Loaf Hill on Okinawa.

William Manchester
Illness stalls negotiations

6 Die in Alaska Fire

Anchorage, Alaska, Dec. 26 (UPI) — Fire in 6-below-zero weathe. early today killed Mrs. Alma Shull, 28, her four small children and a military policeman.

New Chapter in Book Fight

By JACK MALLON

With negotiations canceled yesterday because of the illness of author William Manchester, the next installment in "The Death of a President" controversy is scheduled for New York Supreme Court today.

The talks, which were to be held at the Madison Ave. office of Mrs. John F. Kennedy's attorney Simon H. Rifkind, were called off by representatives of Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc.

Seek New Hearing

The Kennedys had hoped that the book publishers would accept deletions in the manuscript similar to those agreed to by Look magazine last week. Look will begin a 60,000-word seralization of the book on Jan. 10.

A spokesman for Rifkind said that a request for a new hearing date will be made in Supreme Court today on the grounds that "negotiations haven't been completed."

Mrs. Kennedy initiated the court action on Dec. 16 to block the publication of the book and magazine series.

When queried about the request for postponement of today's proceedings, Edward S. Greenbaum, attorney for the publishers, replied, "No comment."

Justice Saul S. Streit had directed the defendants — Cowles Communications, Inc., publishers of Look, Harper & Row and Manchester—to submit briefs today showing cause why a temporary injunction shouldn't be granted.

Exhausted over the ordeal of negotiations and anticipating a speedy resolution of remaining details, Mrs. Kennedy was scheduled to leave New York last night for a brief vacation in Antigua, West Indies, with her children, Caroline and John Jr.

Johnson Wants No Part in Book Controversy

By CHARLES RAAB

Austin, Dec. 26—President Johnson tried his best today to avoid being drawn into the latest controversy surrounding author William Manchester's reportedly explosive version of the Kennedy assassination events.

White House Press Secretary George Christian said the President has not granted any personal interviews to anyone on the hectic events immediately after the assassination. But Johnson has written answers to questions submitted by Manchester, Christian said.

Tells of her Annoyance

Christian denied that Johnson had any role in the latest flap —a published report that his recollection of what happened immediately after President Kennedy was assassinated differs sharply from the Kennedys' version in Manchester's The Death of a President."

The Manchester manuscript — itself the subject of controversy with the Kennedy family over certain passages offensive to Mrs. Kennedy—tells of her annoyance over the haste with which the Johnson party took command of the Air Force One Presidential plane. Other portions tell of her irritation at being called "honey" by Johnson and Johnson's annoyance with Robert F. Kennedy, then Attorney General, for an allegedly noncommital answer on how soon the new President should take the oath of office.

Newsweek, quoting Johnson intimates, assertedly says the Secret Service wanted Johnson on Air Force One because of its superior communications gear and that Attorney General Kennedy said he should be sworn at once. Johnson, according to the article, conceded he may have called the young widow "honey" but described it as narmal for a Texan.

Hasn't Seen Entire Article

Christian said he would not issue a flat denial of the Newsweek piece until he had seen the entire article, but that the portions he had read, from newspaper accounts, were "inaccurate and untrue."

He added:

"I will not discuss the various attributions credited to so-called friends and alleged intimates, except to say that I believe them inaccurate and untrue."

Although he did not flatly say so, it was evident the President's press secretary was commenting after a full discussion with Johnson.

Discussion Ruled Out

Christian said the President has instructed his staff that the entire assassination subject was not to be discussed with anyone As far as he knew, the press spokesman continued, Johnson had not seen the Manchester manuscript.

The President has gone over his impressions with the Warren Commission and has no intention at this time of discussing the subject any further, he added.

Johnson, meanwhile, went to Floresville, Tex, today—about 80 miles from the LBJ Ranch—to attend the funeral of Sam Fore Jr., an old friend who helped in the President's first race for Congress. Fore, 75, died Saturday.

President Johnson
Silence is order of day